

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

- Claims 1-8, 10-17, and 25-29 are pending in the Application after entry of this amendment.
- Claims 1-29 are rejected by Examiner.
- Claims 1, 3-5, 10, 12-14, and 25 are amended.
- Claims 9, 18-24, and 26 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Amendments

Claim 1 is amended to include the aspect of context-based user behavior comprising user feedback data and context data that is associated with the user feedback data. Also added is the aspect that context-based user behavior data is data acquired after receipt by a user of previous search results from a previous search.

Claim 1 is also amended to include that aspect that predicted user satisfaction data comprises an indication of satisfaction that a user experiences in evaluating search results and that the predicted user satisfaction data is used to monitor the performance of a search mechanism.

Thus, Applicant highlights that context-based user behavior data is data from the evaluation of previous search results and that the context-based user behavior data includes user feedback and context data that is associated with the feedback data. Also, Applicant highlights the aspect that predicted user satisfaction data are not search results. Predicted user satisfaction data is an indication of the satisfaction that a user experiences in evaluating search results, but the predicted user satisfaction data are not itself the search results. These aspects are taught throughout the as-filed specification and may also be found in the combined teachings of paragraphs 0044, 0053, 0054, and 0058 and supporting paragraphs.

Claims 3-5 are amended to comport with amended Claim 1. Claim 10 is amended to include some aspects of Claim 1. Claims 12-14 are amended to comport with amended Claim 10. Claim 25 is amended to include some aspects of Claim 1.

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37 CFR § 1.116**

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the present claims are more clearly distinguished from previously cited art because of the definition and functionality of elements in the claimed invention. Applicant respectfully requests continued examination in light of the clarified aspects of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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